

Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project



The 51-year old Alaskan Way Viaduct and 70-year old seawall are deteriorating because of their age and years of wear and tear. Both are vulnerable and at risk of failure if a strong enough earthquake hits the region. Without the viaduct and seawall, the region could lose millions of dollars and suffer through even more hours of congestion. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the City of Seattle (the City) have formed a partnership to replace the viaduct and seawall in order to maintain this critical transportation corridor, and to maintain or improve mobility and the urban environment.

We want to hear from you! The draft environmental impact statement (Draft EIS) will be released on March 31 and the public comment period ends on June 1. Read inside about the Draft EIS and how to submit your comments.



Did You Know?

Enough traffic to fill two freeway lanes in each direction per day would be forced onto I-5, I-405 and Seattle streets if the viaduct and seawall were to fail.

March 2004

The Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project



Read the newly formatted reader-friendly draft environmental impact statement.

FIRST CLASS
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WASHINGTON STATE
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
PERMIT #338

Seawall Replacement Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement...

...not just for
engineers anymore!

Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project

c/o Washington State Department of Transportation
999 Third Avenue South, Suite 2424
Seattle, WA 98104

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Individuals requiring reasonable accommodation of any type may contact Sarah Ferguson at (206) 382-5287/fergusa@wsdot.wa.gov. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may call WA State Telecommunications Relay Service (TTY) at 711.

Title VI: WSDOT assures full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, national origin and sex in the provision of benefits and services. For language interpretation services please contact WSDOT at (206) 382-5287. It is necessary to speak limited English so that your request can be appropriately responded to. For information on WSDOT's Title VI Program, please contact the Title VI Coordinator at (360) 705-7098.

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Join Us at the Draft EIS Public Hearings | | |
| Downtown | West Seattle | Ballard |
| April 27 4:00-7:00 pm | April 28 5:00-8:00 pm | April 29 5:00-8:00 pm |

We Need Your Comments

Did You Know?

The first business on the Seattle waterfront was Yesler’s Mill built in 1852. Today there are over 1,200 businesses within one block of the waterfront and viaduct corridor.

Washington State Ferries is the largest ferry transit system in the United States, carrying 25 million passengers a year. The Bainbridge to Seattle is the busiest commuter route, bringing 20,000 people to and from Seattle each day.

Public Hearings In Your Neighborhood



WHAT:

Check out our new reader-friendly version of the Draft EIS. It clearly defines the five alternatives, their benefits and trade-offs, and analyzes potential impacts such as visual, transportation and construction. This document is a reflection of our commitment to conducting an open decision-making process that encourages public participation and is easy to understand. We need to hear from you to know what matters most as decision makers select and refine the preferred alternative.

WHEN:

You can comment now through June 1, 2004. All comments received during this period will be officially recorded and responded to in the Final EIS.

WHERE:

The Draft EIS will be available:

- On the project website <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/Viaduct/>
- At select Seattle Public Libraries and City Neighborhood Service Centers in the project area. For specific locations, visit the project website.

HOW TO COMMENT:

- Fill out a comment form on the project website (address above)
- Call the project hotline (206) 269-4421
- Send in a written comment to the project office:

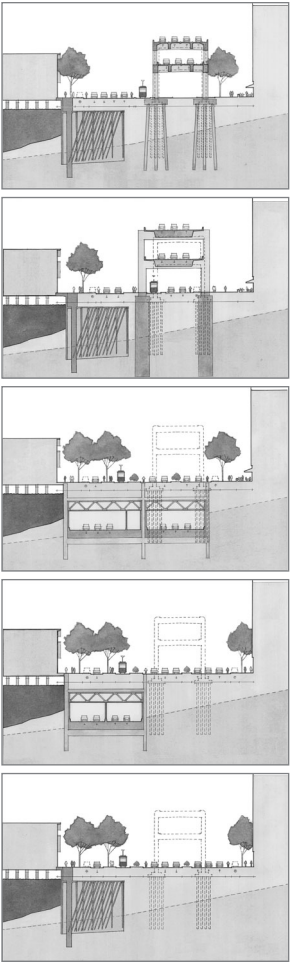
Allison Ray
WSDOT Environmental Coordinator
Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project
999 Third Ave., Suite 2424
Seattle, WA 98104
- Attend the upcoming public hearings in April where you can view the contents of the Draft EIS, offer written comments, or provide oral comments to a court reporter.

| CENTRAL | SOUTH | NORTH |
|--|--|--|
| Tuesday, April 27th 4:00-7:00 p.m. Dome Room, Arctic Building, Downtown 3rd Floor, 700 Third Avenue Bus Routes: Served by over 50 Metro Bus Routes | Wednesday, April 28th 5:00-8:00 p.m. Lafayette Elementary School, West Seattle 2645 California Avenue S.W. Metro Bus Routes: 126, 51, 55, 58, 56, 57 | Thursday, April 29th 5:00-8:00 p.m. Leif Erickson Hall, Ballard 2245 N.W. 57th Street Metro Bus Routes: 15, 18, 44, 46, 75, 81 |



Five Alternatives Under Consideration

After considering over 75 concepts, five viaduct and seawall replacement alternatives are analyzed equally in the Draft EIS. FHWA, the State Transportation Secretary and the Mayor of Seattle will select some combination of these five as the preferred alternative this summer.



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|---------------|--|
| REBUILD | A rebuilt viaduct as it stands today. |
| AERIAL | A new viaduct about 25 feet wider with full lane widths and shoulders. |
| TUNNEL | A 6-lane tunnel beneath Alaskan Way. |
| BYPASS TUNNEL | A 4-lane tunnel from King to Pike Streets in downtown Seattle, with 2 standard lanes added to surface Alaskan Way. |
| SURFACE | A 6-lane surface Alaskan Way, that adds 2 lanes to Alaskan Way from Yesler to Pike Streets. |

Funding to Date Shows Commitment

The costs for the five alternatives range from \$2.5 to \$4.1 billion (costs are based on the midpoint year of construction) with an expectation that construction will range from 6 to 11 years depending on the alternative selected. Funding for the design and environmental work necessary to replace the viaduct and seawall has come from local, regional, state, and federal sources. A project of this size will require substantial additional commitment from local, regional, state, and federal levels.

Did you know?

The gribbles eating away at Seattle’s seawall have 4 mouths and 7 pairs of legs.



Project Schedule



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|------|--|
| 2000 | Legislature funded viaduct replacement study |
| 2001 | Nisqually Earthquake shook Puget Sound |
| 2002 | Engineering for viaduct and seawall replacement began |
| 2003 | Received \$177 million from the 2003 Washington State Legislature Replacement alternatives selected |
| 2004 | Draft EIS published Select replacement plan Final design of replacement plan begins |
| 2005 | Approval of Final EIS |
| 2006 | Final design underway |
| 2007 | Utility relocation underway |
| 2008 | Construction begins |